

1. A bristle carrier for a brush, comprising:
a bristle receiving portion;
at least one pre-molded hole disposed in the bristle receiving portion;
and
5 a projection disposed in a bottom of the pre-molded hole, wherein
the hole is configured to receive a bristle tuft
the bristle receiving portion comprises a surface containing an
opening of the hole, and
a wall of the hole is not perpendicular to the surface.

10 2. The bristle carrier of claim 1, wherein a side surface of the protrusion is
perpendicular to the bottom of the hole, parallel to a wall of the hole, or both.

15 3. The bristle carrier of claim 1, wherein an upper surface of the protrusion
exhibits a three-dimensional contour.

4. The bristle carrier of claim 1, wherein a plurality of projections are disposed in
the bottom of the pre-molded hole.

20 5. The bristle carrier of claim 1, wherein a side surface of the protrusion is not
parallel to a wall of the hole, not perpendicular to the bottom of the hole, or
both.

6. The bristle carrier of claim 1, further comprising a handle portion.

25 7. The bristle carrier of claim 1, wherein a wall of the hole is not perpendicular to
the bottom of the hole.

8. The bristle carrier of claim 1, wherein a wall of the hole is rounded or flat.

30 9. The bristle carrier of claim 1, wherein the carrier has a plurality of pre-molded
holes each having a bottom which at least one protrusion projecting therefrom,

and wherein either the holes are not all identical in shape and size, the protrusions are not all identical in shape and size, or both.

10. A method of producing a brush, comprising:
 - 5 forming a bristle carrier including at least one hole having a protrusion projecting from a bottom of the hole;
 - heating the protrusion and at least a portion of the wall of the hole; and
 - inserting a sheaf of bristles into the hole, wherein
 - when heated, material from the protrusion flows about the
 - 10 bristles, retaining them in the hole, and
 - the sheaf of bristles is not perpendicular to a surface of the bristle carrier containing an opening of the hole.
11. The method of claim 11, further comprising fusing an end of the sheaf to form
- 15 a fuse-ball having a greater diameter than a diameter of the sheaf.
12. The method of claim 12, wherein the fusing is performed thermally or chemically.
- 20 13. The method of claim 13, wherein the fusing is performed thermally, and wherein the sheaf is inserted in the hole while the fuse-ball is still warm.
14. The method of claim 12, further comprising pressing a portion of the wall of the hole around the fuse.
- 25 15. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of forming comprises injection molding or compression molding.

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